

COUNTY OF PLACER
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

RICHARD KNECHT, M.S.
DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SYSTEM OF CARE



MAUREEN F. BAUMAN, L.C.S.W.
DIRECTOR, ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE



April 15, 2007

**RE: Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Year 1 Progress Report
Community Services and Supports
Reporting Period: February – December 2006**

Dear Placer County Community Member:

Mental Health Consumers, Mental Health Consumer Family Members, Agency Partners, and Other Interested Community Members

Attached please find a copy of the first Implementation Progress Report for Placer County's MHSA-Community Services and Supports Program. This report covers the first 11 months of operation, February – December 2006.

Campaign for Community Wellness

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) is one of several initiatives currently underway in Placer County working to transform mental health services. Together, these various funding streams and initiatives are part of a new, coordination effort called the Campaign for Community Wellness. The overall goal of the Campaign for Community Wellness is to transform mental health services in Placer County using innovative, collaborative, culturally competent and consumer-guided approaches. Additional intents of the Campaign are to reduce stigma and embrace recovery around mental health issues. A key component to the Campaign is reaching underserved segments of the community.

MHSA Update

As you may recall, in 2005, after a comprehensive community planning process, Placer County developed a three-year program and expenditure plan for monies generated by the Mental Health Services Act. The goal of the Act, our Plan, and the Campaign for Community Wellness is to transform the mental health system into one that is more

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client and family driven and focused on the principles of recovery and resilience. It was also to identify and address specific areas of service needs in Placer County.

The community helped us identify priority populations of children, transition-age youth, adults and older adults who were un-served or underserved. In addition, areas were identified within the general mental health system, which were in need of transformation. As a result, the following seven programs were developed and implemented during this time:

1. **Rallying Around Children Together (RAFT)**—A Full Service Partnership for children prioritizing 12 children with severe emotional disturbance not identified by schools.
2. **Placer Transition-Age Youth (PTAY)**—A Full Service Partnership for transition-age youth providing an integrated multi-disciplinary service for 11 prioritized youth and their families moving out of children's services and/or into adult services.
3. **Whatever It Takes (WIT) Team**—A Full Service Partnership for adults prioritizing 12 adults with severe mental illness leaving hospitals, locked psychiatric facilities and jail.
4. **Older Adult Full Service Partnership**—A comprehensive mobile outreach, crisis intervention, assessment and case management team targeting six older adults with severe mental illness.
5. **Lake Tahoe System Development**—Providing a welcoming system to increase access to culturally competent mental health services for Latinos in North Lake Tahoe.
6. **System Transformation**—To provide services that partner with consumers and families to achieve recovery/resiliency in a system that is family and client driven, with services that are culturally competent and able to provide quality services to those who have both mental health and substance abuse issues.
7. **Mental Health Crisis Response and Triage**—To augment the current crisis response system and to provide same day/next day services to those who are not hospitalized after assessment.

Placer County was the 3rd county in California to receive approval from the state. Implementation to date, has included hiring staff, developing new program policies and procedures and preparing contracts with partner agencies. There were some challenges in the program start up in the areas of recruitment and program location. However, we are proud of the accomplishments we achieved in the first 11 months of operation and look forward to hearing your thoughts and comments.

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You may submit comments in writing regarding the MHSA Report, no later than May 21, 2007 to:

Maureen Bauman
Placer County Adult Systems of Care
11533 C Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

Or by email to: mzavoras@placer.ca.gov

In addition, the Placer County Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board will be conducting a public hearing to receive comments on this report on May 21, 2007 at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the following location:

Board of Supervisors' Chambers
175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

Any individual may speak at this hearing or submit a written comment at that time.

Thank you for your continued interest and assistance toward improving the quality of life for individuals in our community and their families who are living with mental illness. Together, we can transform mental health services in Placer County.

Sincerely,



Maureen F. Bauman, L.C.S.W., M.P.A
Mental Health Director

Attachment